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The mail will hereafter depart and arrive at Kiakhta monthly. The courier who goes from that city to Irkutsk, the capital of Eastern Siberia, will correspond with the courier going thence to St. Petersburg, and the whole trip from the Russian capital to Peking and the return will, in fine weather, be made in from 78 to 80 days. The advantage of this arrangement will only be made evident when the several nations of Europe will have established official representatives in the Chinese capital, as the late treaties allow them to do.

MISSOURI IRON.

In the 1st volume of the Geological Survey of Missouri an estimate is given of the quantity of iron ore in the celebrated iron region of that State. The Iron Mountain, 228 feet high, covering 500 acres, is one mass of specular ore, weighing 230,187,275 tons, and will yield at the furnace 56 per cent, or 128,904,930 tons of pure iron. Pilot Knob, next in richness, is estimated to contain 13,972,773 tons of ore, or 7,824,752 tons of pure iron. These two deposits will furnish 136,729,682 tons of iron, the ore of which all lies above the natural surface of the country, is easy to mine, and furnishes the best of metal. Railroad iron, 70 lbs. to the yard, takes 123.2 tons to the mile, and all the railroads in the United States (30,000 miles) would take of that weight of rail about 3,696,000 tons of iron, or but a little more than a fortieth part of the whole deposit. What gives a present value to these deposits, is their connection, through the St. Louis and Iron Mountain Railroad, with the vast coal fields lying immediately above St. Louis. At that point the ore and coal are brought in contact, rendering St. Louis unsurpassed by any locality in the world for the manufacture of iron.

JUNCTION OF THE SEA OF AZOF AND THE CASPIAN.

The project of effecting a junction between the Caspian Sea and the Sea of Azof, says a letter from St. Petersburg, is now the subject of much conversation here, and will soon, it is

thought, be realized. This was a favorite scheme of Peter the Great, whose genius clearly saw the immense advantage which must accrue to Russian commerce, if this great inland sea could be connected with the Sea of Azof, and thereby with the Black Sea and the Mediterranean.

NORTHEASTERN BOUNDARY.

The entire length of the boundary line from the source of the river St. Croix to St. Regis, on the St. Lawrence, is 658 miles, 3,145 feet, bounding several States, namely: Maine, 447 miles, 3,753 feet; New Hampshire, 56 miles, 1,503 feet; Vermont, 90 miles, 2,853 feet; and New York, 64 miles, 316 feet. *Exec. Doc., No. 1, 31st Cong., 2d Sess.*

HEIGHT OF MOUNT DEMAVEND.

In the Proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society of London, No. 1, 1859, there appears a very interesting paper on an ascent of Mt. Demavend, effected by R. F. Thomson and Lord Schomberg H. Kerr, of H. B. M.'s mission in Persia. These gentlemen have set at rest the much disputed question of its elevation, and give it at 21,520 feet above the sea. Humboldt, in his *Cosmos*, states it to be 19,715 feet; and, according to the same authority, "Ararat" has an elevation of 17,112 feet.

HEIGHTS OF BOLIVIAN ANDES.

(From the Map of Col. Juan Oндарза.)

Mountains.	Spanish Feet.*
Yllampu (Sorata)	26,969
Yllimani	26,254
Sajama (Sahama)	24,907
Coololo (Apolobamba)	24,320
Huayna-Potosi	23,785
Chachacomani	23,460
Quenuata, { Tacora }	23,100
Chpicani, { in Peru, }	24,660
Mururata	22,194
Sailinsani	22,316
Potosi	17,092
Tunari de Cochabamba	16,966
Hermoso de Aullagas	17,117
Portugalete	16,000
Espejos (in Santa Cruz)	10,149
Misti (Volcano de Arequipa)	21,903

* Spanish foot=282.65 millimetres, or 11.1283 inches, or 0.9273 English foot.